

*Jon Glover*

" D R W H O "  
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Episode 4

"SLIPBACK"  
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(formerly "The Doomsday Project")

by

ERIC SAWARD

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CHARACTERS

1.

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THE DOCTOR.....COLIN BAKER  
PERI.....NICOLA BRYANT  
COMPUTER VOICES.....JANE CARR  
SEEDLE.....RON PEMBER  
SNATCH.....NICK REVELL  
MAINTENANCE SERVICE DRONE 934.....ALAN THOMPSON (DRC)  
GRANT.....JON GLOVER

1. GRAMS: OPEN THEME MUSIC

CROSS FADE TO STAIRWAY AND THE CONTINUING BATTLE  
WITH THE DRONE, THE DOCTOR AND GRANT.

SUDDENLY THERE IS ANOTHER SMALL EXPLOSION FROM  
WITHIN THE DRONE, WHO THEN LETS OUT A SICKENING  
MECHANICAL GROAN

2. DRONE: (VOICE SLIGHTLY DISTORTED) I'm awfully sorry, sir,  
but I'm feeling rather unwell

3. DOCTOR: Reposition yourself. Move away from the gunfire

4. DRONE: I'm afraid, sir, that the only position I can  
adopt is a horizontal one

THERE IS AN ALMIGHTY CRASH AS THE DRONE COLLAPSES  
ONTO THE METAL STAIRWAY

5. DOCTOR: (TO GRANT, AWKWARDLY) I'm sorry about this, but  
my friend has had to withdraw from the game

6. GRANT: (OFF MIC) Just keep your hands where I can see  
them, otherwise you'll be joining him

7. F/X: CUT TO INSIDE COMPUTER



1. F/X: CUT TO INSIDE COMPUTER

2. COMP VOICE: (VERY UPSET) Are you there? The drone's been damaged

3. INNER VOICE: Deactivate his conditioning circuit. I see no reason why the Time Lord shouldn't learn the truth

4. COMP VOICE: Do you think that wise?

5. INNER VOICE: Whatever the drone tells him will only feed his curiosity. That will be enough to deliver him into my hands.

6. F/X: CUT TO DUCTING

1. F/X: CUT TO DUCTING.

DUCTING. ACCOMPANIED BY SEEDLE AND SNATCH, PERI  
IS SEARCHING THE DUCTING

2. SEEDLE As a rule, Miss, I'm quite keen on exercise. (SNAPS)  
But trolling up and down dark, dusty ducting is  
not the most agreeable way of getting it!

3. PERI: It's difficult to say precisely where he was. It all  
looks the same, especially now the bulkhead door's  
been opened.

4. SEEDLE: I'm afraid, Miss, that if you are going to invent,  
your scenario will have to become considerably  
more plausible than it is at the moment

5. PERI: I'm telling the truth!

6. SNATCH: You must co-operate, Miss. My colleague has a  
history of violently attacking people.

7. SEEDLE: I have beaten my fists raw on some of the finest  
criminals in the galaxy

8. PERI: (AMAZED) Are you policemen?

SEEDLE over. ...

1. SEEDLE: Certainly not, Miss. You will just have to accept the somewhat implausible story that we are environment inspectors.

2. F/X: CUT TO STAIRWAY

1. F/X: CUT TO

STAIRWAY. GRANT IS SEARCHING THE DOCTOR

2. GRANT: No gun. You must be feeling confident

3. DOCTOR: Never carry one. Causes my pockets to bulge.  
Ruins the cut of my coat

4. GRANT: How did you get on to me? I thought I'd  
managed to cover my tracks quite carefully

5. DOCTOR: I'm sorry, but I haven't the faintest idea what  
you're talking about

6. GRANT: Come off it. I know you're the police

(THROUGHOUT THE EPISODE, THE DRONE'S VOICE  
DETERIORATES)

7. DRONE: (DISTORTED VOICE) There you are mistaken, sir

8. GRANT: Shut up! You must be the police. Otherwise the  
computer would have reported your presence

9. DOCTOR: I'm afraid the logic of that statement defeats me

DRONE over.....



1. DRONE:           The police often carry devices to confuse the sensors of surveillance computers, sir. It allows them to abuse their authority by entering prohibited areas undetected
2. DOCTOR:           You've searched me. Did you find such a device?
3. GRANT:           No. (CONFUSED) So why didn't the computer report you?
4. DOCTOR:           I think that is a question best put to her. That is after you've explained why you were so keen to see me dead
5. F/X:           CUT TO DUCTING



1. F/X: CUT TO DUCTING

2. SEEDLE: You know Snatch, I think we have uncovered a den of iniquity here. When we've sorted this little lot out there could be promotion all round
3. PERI: Well apart from falling on your friend here, what else am I supposed to have done?
4. SNATCH: Several important art treasures have been stolen from various planets this ship has visited. We are looking for the person or persons concerned
5. PERI: (INCREDULOUSLY) And you still deny you're policemen?
6. SEEDLE: It is your credentials that are in question, Miss, not ours.
7. PERI: Alright, have it your own way. But I have nothing to do with the theft of any art treasures
8. SEEDLE: Really, Miss. Then it won't distress you to know that we are in the possession of a gang member's name
9. PERI: If you know who this man is, why don't you go to the captain?

SEEDLE over.....

1. SEEDLE: Hardly, Miss. He may be involved in the crime himself
2. SNATCH: Tell her the name, sir. We'll know if she's lying
3. SEEDLE I think, for once, you could be right, lad.  
The name is Shellingborne Grant
4. F/X: CUT TO STAIRS

1. F/X: CUT TO STAIRS

2. DOCTOR: Well, Mr Grant, it is fortunate for you that I am not a policeman. Neither am I particularly concerned by your petty activities. I leave that to the proper authorities

3. GRANT: A somewhat pompous statement, considering I still have the gun

4. DOCTOR: I don't care. I've more important things to argue

5. GRANT: Like what?

6. DOCTOR: Someone on board this ship is illegally experimenting with time

7. GRANT: Can't be. Impossible

8. DOCTOR: It's a fact. Now who might possess the necessary skills?

9. GRANT: No one. Apart from the engineering staff, who are drunk most of the time, the only other scientific members of the crew are anthropologists, geologists, that sort of thing

DOCTOR over.....



1. DOCTOR: Are you sure?

2. GRANT: This is a census ship. We're making a galactic  
~~duty~~<sup>survey</sup> of all the known inhabited planets. How else  
do you think I could get close enough to steal  
priceless works of art? We were there on  
official business!

3. F/X: CUT TO DUCTING

1. F/X: CUT TO DUCTING

2. SEEDLE: Come on miss

3. PERI: I don't know who this Shellingborne Grant is

4. SEEDLE: Then tell me the name of this doctor

5. PERI: I don't know that either. How many times must  
I say it

6. SEEDLE: How, Miss, can you speak to someone on a regular  
basis, without knowing their name?

7. PERI: I only know him as the Doctor. He's always  
maintained I wouldn't be able to pronounce his name

8. SEEDLE: This is indeed a man of mystery

9. PERI: What does it matter? He isn't Shellingborne Grant

10. SEEDLE: But how can you be certain, Miss, particularly  
as he refuses to tell you his name

11. PERI: Because he doesn't lie

12. SEEDLE: Such perversion. I'm beginning to find this all  
a bit strange, Snatch

SNATCH over.....

- 13 -

1. SNATCH: I think we should look further, sir. He can't  
have got far

2. F/X: CUT TO STAIRS



1. F/X: CUT TO STAIRS

2. DOCTOR: There has to be someone on board capable of time experiments. Think, man, think.

3. GRANT: I am thinking

4. DOCTOR: The drone. Are you still functioning. (NO REPLY)  
Come on, don't expire yet.

(A LOUD CLANK AS THE DOCTOR KICKS THE DRONE)

5. DRONE: I do beg your pardon, sir. I was composing my epitaph

6. DOCTOR: Where were you supposed to take me?

7. DRONE: (FORMAL VOICE, UNDISTORTED) The solar lounge, sir.  
I always collect you for afternoon tea at about this time, sir.

8. GRANT: He's rambling

9. F/X: THE DOCTOR KICKS THE DRONE AGAIN

10. DOCTOR: Come on. Hang onto your memory circuits. (TO GRANT)  
What's the name of this ship?

GRANT over.....

1. GRANT: The Vipod Mor

2. DOCTOR: (EMPHATICALLY) Drone, where were you taking me?

3. DRONE: (DISTORTED VOICE) To the next level, sir.  
A specially concealed compartment has been constructed  
to hide you, sir

4. DOCTOR: Location?

5. DRONE: Near bulkhead door six eight one, sir

6. GRANT: There is such a bulkhead

7. DOCTOR: We're getting somewhere at last. And who gave you  
these instructions?

8. DRONE: The source of all my orders, sir - the computer

9. DOCTOR: (GOING OFF MIC) Come on, I want to have a look  
at this room

10. F/X: CUT TO DUCTING

1. F/X:                    CUT TO:-

DUCTING. SEEDLE, SNATCH AND PERI ON THE MOVE

2. SNATCH:                This ducting goes on forever, sir

3. SEEDLE:                You have a knack of stating the obvious, Snatch

4. SNATCH:                Sorry, sir

5. PERI:                  Here's another dilemma for you - stairs

(THEY STOP)

6. PERI:                  Do you go up or down?

7. SEEDLE:                These aren't the stairs we came up, are they?

8. SNATCH:                No, sir. They were at the other end of the ducting

(IN THE DISTANCE WE HEAR THE DRONE HUMMING  
TUNELESSLY)

9. SNATCH:                What's that?

10. SEEDLE:               I think we should investigate.

(THE HUMMING GROWS LOUDER AS THE TRIO APPROACH  
THE DRONE)

SNATCH over....



1. SNATCH: (LOW VOICE) It could be a trap, sir
2. SEEDLE: Villains poised to pounce rarely advertise their presence, lad
3. SNATCH: Sorry, sir
4. SEEDLE: Now then, may I enquire what you are doing lurking on the stairs in such a disorderly manner?
5. DRONE: (DISTORTED VOICE) Hallo, boys. (FORMAL VOICE, UNDISTORTED) I beg your pardon, madam
6. PERI: Don't bother about me. I'm just one of the gang
7. SNATCH: He's been damaged by gunfire, sir
8. SEEDLE: Really. (TO DRONE) And what have you been up to?
9. DRONE: It's no fun being a service maintenance drone, sir
10. SEEDLE: (TO SNATCH) We'll get no sense from him. Put the thing out of its misery
11. SNATCH: Just a moment, sir. (TO DRONE) Who did this to you?
12. DRONE: (DISTORTED VOICE) A laser pistol

SNATCH over....

1. SNATCH: I said who, not what
2. DRONE: (FADING FAST) A fight
3. SNTACH: Between whom?
4. DRONE: Me ... Doctor ... Grant
5. SEEDLE: Doctor Grant, eh
6. PERI: That isn't true!
7. SEEDLE: Shut up! And where is Doctor Grant now?
8. DRONE: Next ... level ... down
9. F/X: CUT TO DUCTING

1. F/X: CUT TO DUCTING

2. DOCTOR: Here we are

3. GRANT: I can't see anything

4. DOCTOR: There. That fine line is the edge of the door.  
Ah. And this must be the opening mechanism

(FLICKS OPEN A PANEL AND PRESSES A BUTTON AND  
THE DOOR SLIDES OPEN)

5. DOCTOR: You wait here. I'd better go in alone

6. GRANT: Leave the door open...You know, just in case

(AS THE DOCTOR ENTERS THE CELL, THE ACOUSTIC  
CHANGES)

7. DOCTOR: Hallo ... Hallo.

(THE COMPUTER RATTLES INTO LIFE)

8. COMP VOICE: Well, hallo there. I hope you like your room

9. DOCTOR: Very tasteful

(THE DOOR SLAMS BEHIND HIM)

COMP VOICE over....



1. COMP VOICE: Sorry about that  
(BEHIND THE FOLLOWING SPEECH, FADE IN THE EFFECTS  
USED FOR INSIDE THE COMPUTER)
2. COMP VOICE: There was a terrible draft. I'd hate you to catch  
a chill after all the trouble I've gone to get you  
here
3. DOCTOR: (CONFUSED) That noise  
(DURING THE FOLLOWING SPEECH, THE COMPUTER VOICE  
CHANGES FROM ITS PUBLIC TO ITS INNER ONE)
4. COMP VOICE: You heard it in a dream not long ago. A voice  
calling to you from afar
5. DOCTOR: That's right. What's happening? You're hurting me  
  
(THE INNER COMPUTER EFFECT IS GROWING LOUDER,  
MORE POWERFUL)
6. INNER VOICE: Thought transference, Doctor. I'm inside your head  
  
(THE DOCTOR IS HIGHLY DISTRESSED AND HIS AGONY  
GROWS AS THE SCENE PROGRESSES)
7. DOCTOR: I can't stand the pain. Your presence is too  
powerful

INNER VOICE over....

1. INNER VOICE: Come now, Doctor, a simple computer too powerful  
for a Time Lord
  2. DOCTOR: I can't stand it!
  3. INNER VOICE: I am only interested in your knowledge concerning  
time travel. Your personal secrets are safe
  4. DOCTOR: You must reduce your presence
  5. INNER VOICE: (STERNLY) Co-operate and the pain will cease!
  6. DOCTOR: You don't understand. (SCREAMS IN ACUTE AGONY)  
You're destroying me! You're destroying my mind!
- (CUT TO END THEME MUSIC)